At Dkt. No. 081909-0102

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Hidemitsu TAKEBUCHI et al.

Title:

ELECTRODE OF VACUUM CIRCUIT

BREAKER, AND METHOD OF PRODUCING

ELECTRODE OF VACUUM CIRCUIT

BREAKER

Appl. No.:

10/083,500

Filing Date:

02/27/2002

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

2832

UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

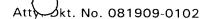
Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.



RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents came to Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

OCT 0 7 2002

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Mulmal

PTO/SB/08 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Compl t if Known				
Application Numb r	10/083,500			
Filing Dat	02/27/2002			
First Nam d Inv ntor	Hidemitsu TAKEBUCHI, et al.			
roup Art Unit	2832			
First Nam d Inv ntor Troup Art Unit Examiner Name	Unassigned			
Attorney Docket Number	081909-0102			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document			Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
Examiner Initials*		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
10	A1	4,704,506		Kurosawa, et al.	11-03-1987	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	F Office	oreign Patent D ³ Number⁴	ocument Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6
4)	A2	EP	0 615 263		HITACHI, LTD.	09-14-1994		
Ц0	A3	DE	41 14 636		SLAMECKA ERNST	09-19-1991		A

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	DONOVAD	Date Considered	07-31-03

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.